

**The Omaha Bee**Published every morning, except Sunday.  
The only Monday morning daily.TERMS BY MAIL—  
One Year.....\$10.00 Three Months.....\$3.00  
Six Months.....5.00 One.....1.00

THE WEEKLY BEE, published every Wednesday.

TERMS POST PAID—  
One Year.....\$2.00 Three Months.....50  
Six Months.....1.00 One.....1.00

CORRESPONDENCE—All Communications relating to New and Editorial matters should be addressed to the Editor or THE BEE.

BUSINESS LETTERS—All Business Letters and Remittances should be addressed to THE OMAHA PUBLISHING COMPANY, OMAHA. Drafts, Checks and Post-office Orders to be made payable to the order of the Company.

OMAHA PUBLISHING CO., Prop'te.  
E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

CITIZEN BROOKS will now explain why he bolts the republican city ticket before a gun is fired.

Good government can only be secured through reputable and efficient public servants.

In the face of water competition by lake and canal, the monopoly magnates are finding it difficult to maintain exorbitant rates on east bound shipments.

WHEN Mary Clemmer says that Speaker Keifer "bears about him much of the bucolic bloom of early arm days," she probably means that he smells of old rye.

Two hundred American consular offices and commercial agencies in Canada are filled by Canadians. It is expected that the present incumbents will be replaced by Americans. Don't all speak at once.

JAY GOULD is said to have his grip on the Mutual Union Telegraph company and the final consolidation of that company and the Western Union is said to be as sure as death and taxes.

THE new directory of St. Louis contains 19,000 more names than last year's volume. The increase of population is estimated at 55,000. It is safe to say that the enterprising directory publishers of Chicago will shortly get in their work.

**PERPLEXED IOWA POLITICIANS.**

The reapportionment will work sad havoc with some eminent Iowa statesmen. The old Fourth district, which has always been good for a republican majority of almost any figure, has been cut in two, and each half put in as a sort of saving clause in the political creed of two Mississippi river districts. Mitchell county, which is the home of Hon. N. C. Deering, who represents the old Fourth in congress, is in the extreme northwestern corner of the new Fourth district, a district which, unfortunately, faces the river, and contains within its eastern boundaries the home of Hon. Thos. Updegraff, a gentleman who is now in congress from the old Third district. He is making a good record and probably, in view of the success of the river county men, will be the next member from the new Fourth, while Mr. Deering, who has now the reputation of being one of the hardest workers in congress, will be retired. After Mr. Updegraff's turn comes to come home for good there is Hon. Wm. Larabee, who was a prominent candidate for the governorship last fall, who will undoubtedly be willing to pick up the fallen mantle of office.

The new Third district, consisting of Dubuque, Delaware, Buchanan, Blackhawk, Bremer, Butler and Grundy, is arrayed somewhat in the shape of a boot, with the stanch and republican counties of Blackhawk, Bremer, Butler and Grundy in the foot part, and Dubuque, which is pretty unanimously democratic, way up at the top of the leg, and, as in the case of the boy with his new boots, the top part gets all the patent leather embellishment while the foot part does all the work. Dubuque has a candidate for congress in the person of Col. D. Henderson, and if the Third district could always be sure of his services the foot part ought not to grumble if it had to do some tall kicking in his favor to elect him. He was a brave soldier and left one leg on the battle field. He is a polished orator and a gentleman whose republicanism is of the truest stripe. In opposition to him it is said that Hon. W. G. Donnan, of Buchanan, will be a candidate. He too is a worthy man, and if these two gentlemen take part in the canvass, it will be a lively one. The probabilities are, however, that there may be other candidates. The district will be solidly republican, which can be said of all the eleven districts of the state.

The Missouri river district which is now represented by Congressman Hepburn, of Page county, has been reconstructed so as to leave Hepburn out in the cold and the race will be between Stone, Anderson and Sapp. The canvass in some of the reconstructed districts has already begun and the campaign promises to be very lively.

**HIT HIM, HE'S GOT NO FRIENDS."**

On the eighth day of March a disturbance of the peace took place in Omaha, which was magnified into a great riot, because twenty-five hundred men marched in the streets before it occurred. On the next day the governor of the state called upon the president to suppress an insurrection. There is no branch of trade that is not in a flourishing condition. There is no branch of trade that is not in a flourishing condition. Waves here have not been low since the revival of good times. Carpenters are getting \$3 to \$4 a day; bricklayers, \$3 to \$5 to \$6; painters, \$2 to \$3 to \$5, coopers, \$12 per week, and other trades in proportion. The rents of the classes of buildings occupied by well-to-do craftsmen have not been advanced to any burdensome extent; in many instances they have not been raised at all, and the average advance will not exceed 5 per cent. Many articles of food have been unusually dear for nine months past, but the spring supply of vegetables, etc., now coming in from the south and other sections, have reduced the prices of a good many commodities about 10 per cent.

The craftsmen can not say that recent or prospective legislation is unfavorable to them. Both political parties in this state have in fact shown considerable anxiety within the past year to win the favor of the working classes by making laws to suit them. Four bills now before the general assembly at Albany are a direct concession to the demands of the working classes, and the advice from the capital are that two of them—a bill to prohibit the manufacture of cigars in tenement houses, and a bill for the abolition of prison labor—will be adopted upon during the present session. The other bills are for the establishment of a bureau of labor statistics and for a law for the better security and more expeditious collection of wages. The fact is that workmen in nearly all, if not all, the trades, with the possible exception of the printers, are doing better and are in every way more prosperous than they have been since the panic. What, then, is the meaning of the present agitation among them?

It is learned, by careful inquiry among them here, that they think they are not getting their share of the general prosperity of the country. There is large demand for their services, and they think they are entitled to all the pay the work will stand. In short, they are uneasy because, though they are doing very well, they believe they can and ought to do better.

Then they plead high rents and high cost of food; they are very uneasy and indignant over the present system of convict labor in state prisons; and last, but very likely most important of all, they are encouraged to demand more of employers because their trades-unions, as a rule, are in a flourishing condition, and there are several trades to regard their interests as identical, and back up one another in all ways in their several controversies with capital. They think they are in a position to demand a little more of capital and they propose to try it on. About half the trades represented in this city are agitating for higher wages.

The printers are not so well situated as they might be for making stiff demands upon their employers. The large newspapers of this city have pretty well broken the life of the location. Only two of the large offices will give employment to union printers, and the union is not in a condition to enforce any important demand.

It is not yet apparent what disposition the legislature is likely to make of the anti-convict labor bill. New Jersey for two years past had a law in force restricting the number of convicts who can be employed in any one industry to one hundred. The results have been very satisfactory to everybody except the contractors, who of course have made less money. The prison receipts have been as large as they were under the old system, when hats and shoes were the only manufacturers turned out by the convicts.

There are in New York ten gold-beating factories, where the richer minerals are manipulated for ornamental purposes, such as name lettering, book-gilding, frame-adorning and other uses. The industry in this country is comparatively young, and it is reported that in the town of Birmingham, England, more gold is beaten than throughout the whole of the United States. In the whole of the United States there are some twenty houses in this business, which employ about 750 men. The wages paid the workers was, till recently, \$8 a month, consisting of four packs, and valued at \$28. A good workman could make two beatings a week. A few months ago an English capitalist commenced business in Philadelphia, and endeavored to introduce the child-labor system. The men at work in the factories "struck," and voluntarily reduced their work to \$4 a beating, in order to drive the German child-labor system out of the market. The movement caused a decline in prices. Gold which had previously been selling for \$0.50 and \$7.25 a pack was reduced to \$6 and \$6.25 a pack. The employers tried to restart the men's action, but the latter formed themselves into a union into which all the journey-men gold beaters of the country came, and since May last there has been a continuous struggle between workmen and masters, without any indication of a speedy understanding being arrived at. The value of the business is about \$1,000,000 a year. It was reported that the gold beating industry is to be exclusively carried on in New York, but this report has not been substantiated, either by statements of bosses or men. A Centre street manufacturer said that, "owing to the duration of the strike, it is uncertain that when the men accept their previous tariff of wages the price would go to the old standard. This movement on the part of the men is very detrimental to the interests of the manufacturers, who are losing from \$400 to \$1,000 a week. Many capitalists have from \$30,000 to \$50,000 worth of gold beatings on hand. This fact, if generally known, would cause another serious decline in price. There are eight of the ten New York houses ready and willing to abandon the child-labor system in the Philadelphia house, where this "unpleasantness" first started, will pledge itself to employ none but experienced men."

It strikes them all in the same way. The Buffalo Express, commenting on the refusal of Vermont and Massachusetts women to vote, says:

The perversity of the fair sex something fearful and wonderful. Your average woman suffragist will travel, lobby, read papers, attend conventions, and worry legislators as long as she has a hair pin left to get her divine right of voting, and then, when it is given to her, she won't use it. Vermont furnished the latest example of this. Now the question is, when women talk about wanting the suffrage do they really want it, or do they talk for the sake of talking, as tyrant man sometimes accuses them of doing?

THE senate bill to restore the franking privilege is lying dormant in the house, and will not secure a passage. Congressmen hesitate about voting for a measure which is unpopular with their constituents. A saving of a few dollars yearly in postage would not be counterbalanced by a loss of the seal. That is where the shoe pinches. Under the franking privilege, the mails were so loaded down with free matter that high rates of postage were absolutely necessary. Our postal service is now nearly self-supporting, and the public will not submit to a revival of an old abuse, which was gotten rid of without much difficulty.

THURSTON and Yost, the Douglass county members of the Republican State Central Committee, are now playing the role of assistant Democrats. They have bolted the Republican city ticket, and support four rural Democrats for the city council.

ALBANY is using the electric light and the chief of police declares that wherever these lights are in use crime decreases one-half within their limits. If this is so a few electric lights would prove an excellent substitute in Omaha for our overworked city marshals.

**LABOR MATTERS.**

New York Special.

Many of the sincerest friends of the working classes here fail to see that the threatened strikes and labor agitations in and near this city are incited by any serious grievances or hardships. There is no branch of trade that is not in a flourishing condition. Waves here have not been low since the revival of good times. Carpenters are getting \$3 to \$4 a day; bricklayers, \$3 to \$5 to \$6; painters, \$2 to \$3 to \$5, coopers, \$12 per week, and other trades in proportion. The rents of the classes of buildings occupied by well-to-do craftsmen have not been advanced to any burdensome extent; in many instances they have not been raised at all, and the average advance will not exceed 5 per cent. Many articles of food have been unusually dear for nine months past, but the spring supply of vegetables, etc., now coming in from the south and other sections, have reduced the prices of a good many commodities about 10 per cent.

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Even the blind could see it.

Sutton Bigler.

Those who blame the state militia for being on guard at Omaha do not reason well. In their capacity as soldiers, it is their duty to obey the call of the commander-in-chief. If there were no need for troops to preserve the peace, the blame rests with the democratic mayor of Omaha and the republican sheriff of Douglas county.

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